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MILK PRODUCTION**MINNESOTA'S DECEMBER MILK OUTPUT DOWN 2 PERCENT**

December 2004 milk production totaled 679 million pounds in Minnesota, down 2 percent from the 691 million pounds produced in December 2003, according to the Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service. November milk output at 639 million pounds was not revised.

Minnesota production per cow averaged 1,475 pounds in December 2004, down 10 pounds from last December. The November rate at 1,390 pounds was not revised. The average number of milk cows on farms in Minnesota during December 2004 was 460,000 head, the same as November, but down 5,000 from a year ago.

Accumulated Minnesota milk production for all 12 months of 2004 was 8.10 billion pounds, down 2 percent from the same period a year ago.

DECEMBER MILK PRODUCTION UP 1 PERCENT IN MAJOR STATES

Milk production during December 2004 totaled 12.43 billion pounds, up 1 percent from December 2003 in the 20 major states. Revised November production for the 20 states was 11.85 billion pounds. Production per cow in the 20 states averaged 1,602 pounds during December 2004, up 6 pounds from December 2003. Revised November output per cow was 1,526 pounds. The number of milk cows in the 20 major states during December averaged 7.76 million head, up 47,000 from a year ago.

Accumulated milk production in the 20 major states for all 12 months of 2004 was 148.41 billion pounds, up less than half of 1 percent from the same period a year ago.

MILK PRODUCTION, MAJOR STATES

State	MILK COWS			RATE PER COW			MILK PRODUCTION			
	Dec 2003	Nov 2004 Rev.	Dec 2004	Dec 2003	Nov 2004 Rev.	Dec 2004	Dec 2003	Nov 2004 Rev.	Dec 2004	2004 as % of 2003
	<u>Thousand Head</u>			<u>Pounds</u>			<u>Million Pounds</u>			<u>Percent</u>
CA	1,697	1,741	1,741	1,740	1,700	1,775	2,953	2,960	3,090	105
ID	412	434	435	1,800	1,720	1,780	742	746	774	104
MN	465	460	460	1,485	1,390	1,475	691	639	679	98
NY	657	646	646	1,480	1,410	1,485	972	911	959	99
PA	562	563	565	1,480	1,420	1,490	832	799	842	101
WI	1,247	1,237	1,236	1,485	1,415	1,490	1,852	1,750	1,842	99
20 States	7,713	7,764	7,760	1,596	1,526	1,602	12,313	11,851	12,432	101